

Grain-Bank Scheme in M.P.

3159. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Grain-Bank Scheme of Madhya Pradesh Government has been approved by Central Government;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) how many districts, blocks and villages would be covered under it, what would be the capacities of these Grain-Banks?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) No Sir;

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Constitution of Panchayati Rajya State Finance Commission

†3160. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether constitution of a Panchayati Rajya State Finance Commission in each State is considered essential for financing the village Panchayats;

(b) if so, the State in which much Panchayati Rajya State Finance Commissions have not been constituted even after Panchayat elections;

(c) whether non-constitution of the Panchayati Rajya State Finance Commission is a violation of the 73rd amendment; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to get the Panchayati Rajya State Finance Commissions constituted in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) Article 243-I of the Constitution of India provides that the States shall constitute State Finance Commissions (SFCs) to review the financial position of the Panchayats and to make recommendations for improvement of financial position of Panchayati Raj Institutions. Arunachal Pradesh and Jharkhand have not yet constituted SFC. These States have also not yet been held Panchayat Elections.

It is mandatory on the part of the State Governments to constitute SFC.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.